

The People Speak Global Debates

Global Debate Partners:

We know that you have opinions about global issues. Now we're giving you a chance to make your opinion heard and see how your views compare to high school students across the country and around the world.

International Debate
Education Association
www.idebate.org

The People Speak (TPS) is sponsoring two Global Debates during the 2007-2008 school year. During two one-week periods in the fall and spring, the TPS Global Debates will allow students at U.S. and international high schools to hold debates and discussions on two of the most critical global issues of our day: climate and water.

National Forensic
League
www.nflonline.org

All participating schools will be eligible to compete to send their four-person student debate team (plus two teachers/adult chaperones) to the **United Nations Foundation Global Student Leadership Summit** in New York City. Held in July 2008, this will be an opportunity to meet other student activists, learn even more about the issues and take advantage of special opportunities including a special UN tour and the opportunity to meet high ranking UN officials.

How can I get involved in the TPS Global Debates?

- **Step 1: Build Your Team!** Are you passionate about global issues? Are you always the one debating ideas with your friends? Find three more people and start a TPS Global Debate team. Your team will research the Global Debate topic and prepare clear, persuasive arguments for both sides of the issue.
- **Step 2: Register Your Debate.** Any U.S. or international high school can participate in the Global Debate. You must register your event to be eligible to vote. Register your school online at <http://globaldebates.thepeoplespeak.org>.
- **Step 3: Find out more!** Go to www.thepeoplespeak.org for hints and strategies on how to create a public debate in your school and topic guides, "Debateabases", research and other resources to help you prepare your arguments.
- **Step 4: Debate and Vote!** We'll provide the ballots for every student in your school to vote on which side of the debate they found the most compelling. Your goal is to reach the largest audience possible and to get as many students as you can to vote on the Global Debate topic. Try to get your school to reserve some time during a school assembly for the Global Debate. Another idea is to hold an after-school event. You could even film your debate and ask teachers show the video in their classes.

What are the Debate Topics?

October 2007 Debate Topic: *Resolved:* Market mechanisms are preferable to regulatory approaches in reducing carbon emissions. (October 12-22, 2007)

March 2008 Debate Topic: *Resolved:* Water should be considered national property. (March 14-24, 2008)

About The People Speak

The People Speak is an educational campaign designed to engage young people on the global issues that will shape their future. Young people are ready to take on some of the most serious challenges and exciting opportunities facing our nation and the world. By engaging them on issues of poverty reduction, global health, climate change and more, TPS is inspiring young people to be a positive force for change in the world. Learn more at www.thepeoplespeak.org.